

TALES OF THE UNUSUAL

STORY/ART BY SUNGDAE OH

ETERNAL LIFE PILLS: PART 1







I KNOW
THAT IT'S
YOUR FIRST
TIME.

BUT
WE'RE JUST
HERE TO GET
WHAT WE
DESERVE.

FAIR
AND SQUARE,
JUST LIKE IT
SAYS IN THE
CONTRACT.

DING DONG



A man in a grey jacket and a man in a green jacket stand in a hallway, looking at a door. The man in the grey jacket is on the left, and the man in the green jacket is on the right. The door is in the center, and there is a small sign on it. The hallway is dimly lit, and there is a control panel on the wall to the left.

PACKAGE
DELIVERY.









I'LL GET
RIGHT TO THE
POINT.

WHY
DON'T YOU
REPAY US WITH
ETERNAL LIFE PILLS
INSTEAD OF
MONEY?

YOU ALREADY
OWE MORE THAN
300 MILLION WON.
BUT..

WE DON'T
THINK IT WILL
BE EASY TO GET
THAT MUCH MONEY
FROM YOU
EITHER.

SO WE
BROUGHT
THIS AS A GOOD
ALTERNATIVE FOR
BOTH OF US.



YOU MAY BE A
BIT UNCOMFORTABLE
PAYING WITH YOUR
LIFE INSTEAD OF
MONEY..

BUT WHEN
YOU THINK OF
THE MENTAL AND
PHYSICAL PAIN AND
TIME THAT YOU WOULD
HAVE TO USE TO PAY BACK
300 MILLION WON,
THIS WOULD BE
BETTER.

.....

SO THOSE ARE THE
ETERNAL LIFE PILLS THAT I'VE HEARD ABOUT..



A man with a mustache and a serious expression is pointing his right index finger towards a document. The document is pinned to a wall and contains several lines of text, some of which are highlighted in yellow. The man is wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored shirt.

LOOK,
YOU EVEN
SIGNED THE
CONTRACT.

IT SAYS
THAT YOU'LL
REPAY US WITH
ETERNAL LIFE PILLS
IF YOU DON'T PAY
BEFORE THE
DEADLINE.

A man with a distressed expression, showing sweat drops on his face, is looking up. A hand is holding a white rectangular object, possibly a piece of paper or a card, in front of him. The background is dark and indistinct.

I NEED
SOME TIME TO
THINK ABOUT
IT...

WE CAN'T
ALLOW THAT..
ARE YOU GOING
TO HIDE
AGAIN..?



N...NO.
I PLAN ON
SWALLOWING THE PILLS,
BUT I DON'T FEEL
READY YET...

IDIOT,
THE LONGER
YOU WAIT, THE
MORE YOUR
DEBT WILL
SNOWBALL.

YOU
LOOK LIKE
YOU'RE STILL
YOUNG AND
HEALTHY...

SO IF YOU TAKE
CARE OF YOURSELF,
YOU SHOULD RECOVER
TO AN EXTENT WITHIN
FIVE YEARS.

HERE,
THE WATER
IS FREE SO DRINK
AS MUCH AS
YOU LIKE.



.....

ALRIGHT...



AAAHHH!!!



UGGHH..!!

UGH..!!

UMPH...





AGH..!

UH..!



THAT'S THE ETERNAL LIFE PILL...!

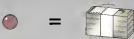


ETERNAL LIFE PILLS ARE
A MYSTERIOUS PRODUCT INTO WHICH
YOU CAN ABSORB A PERSON'S LIFE FORCE.
THERE ARE TWO KINDS: FULL, RED ONES
AND EMPTY ONES.



THE RED CAPSULES CONTAIN LIFE FORCE,
SO IF YOU SWALLOW THEM, YOU ABSORB THE LIFE
FORCE INSIDE AND THE EMPTY CAPSULE IS DISCHARGED.
ON THE OTHER HAND, IF YOU SWALLOW AN EMPTY CAPSULE,
IT TAKES LIFE FORCE OUT OF YOU AND
A RED CAPSULE IS DISCHARGED.

ONCE SWALLOWED,
ETERNAL LIFE PILLS ARE DISCHARGED WITHIN MINUTES.




USUALLY, PEOPLE SELL THEIR
LIFE FORCE USING THESE PILLS AS A LAST RESORT
WHEN THEY ARE OVERWHELMED WITH HARDSHIPS OR DEBT,
AND WEALTHY PEOPLE ARE KNOWN TO BUY THEM
WITH LARGE SUMS OF MONEY.

JUST ONE OF THESE ETERNAL LIFE PILLS WITH THIS SURREAL,
ALMOST SUPERNATURAL EFFECT IS WORTH 100 MILLION WON,
AND THEY ARE SOLD AT A PREMIUM.



THAT GUY JUST SWALLOWED THREE PILLS...



NOW,
WHAT YOU HAVE
TO DO IS PICK THROUGH
THAT GUY'S CRAP TO RETRIEVE
THE ETERNAL LIFE
PILLS.

RIGHT..



AAAHHH!!!

HUH?



WHAT'S
GOING ON...?



...?



UGH..

CREAK

UHH..





PHEW..
THE SMELL...

WHAT
HAPPENED?



HEY,
WHERE ARE
THE ETERNAL LIFE
PILLS?

W...WELL...



H'M SORRY..

I ACCIDENTALLY..

WAIT,
DID YOU..



I
ACCIDENTALLY
FLUSHED...

M...MAYBE
IF I LOOK THROUGH
THE SEPTIC
TANK...

UNBELIEVABLE...



W..WOULD
THAT WORK?

HOW ARE
WE SUPPOSED
TO FIND THEM
LIKE THAT?

PLUS THEY
BECOME USELESS
IF THEY'RE STUCK
IN CRAP FOR
TOO LONG.



UNFORTUNATELY..
THERE'S NO OTHER
CHOICE..

A close-up of a hand holding a small, white, rectangular object with a simple face drawn on it. The hand is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the frame. The background is a dark, textured surface.

HEY.

HOLD
THIS BASTARD
DOWN





CALL
911.

HE'S
NOT DEAD
YET.



.....



I STILL REGRET
NOT LEAVING THIS WHOLE BUSINESS AT THE TIME..

To be continued..